

Minutes of the Meeting
of
Bar, Bench, Media Conference
of
Delaware

A meeting of the Bar, Bench, Media Conference was held by video conferencing on Thursday, April 17, 1997, at 1:00 o'clock p.m. in three locations in Delaware: the Grand Jury Room, 3rd floor of the Daniel L. Herrmann Court House in Wilmington; the Kent County Superior Court Judges' Chambers in Dover, and the Sussex County Superior Court Judges' Chambers in Georgetown. The meeting was open to the public.

The members of the Conference in attendance were:

Members from the Bench

Chief Justice E. Norman Veasey
Vice Chancellor Jack B. Jacobs
President Judge Henry DuPont Ridgely
Judge John K. Welch
Chief Magistrate M. Patricia Walther Griffin

Members from the Print News Media

Rita Farrell
Tamra Brittingham

Members from the Electronic Media

William D. Osborne
Michael Sigman

Members from the Bar

Eugene H. Bayard
Howard M. Handelman

Also present were guests Judge Peggy Ableman, Ellen Meyer, Esquire and Diane Kirk of the Delaware State News.

Mr. Sigman chaired the meeting.

Report of the Internet Committee: The committee continues to investigate themes for the conference and is seeking a new date to hold it.

Discussion Topic: Mike Selig led a discussion about high profile cases - why and how the media covers them. Members of the media present as well as Erin O'Neil and Kauren Krauth and University of Delaware Professor Danilo Yanich participated in the presentation. Questions and answer followed. Attached is a copy of *TV News, Crime & the City* by Danilo Yanich, Ph.D.

Old Business: Members present discussed how to proceed with the topic of whether or not to recommend reversing the presumption of confidentiality in Family Court Proceedings. It was decided to focus on that topic at the April meeting. Judge McKelvie has invited Ellen Meyer to attend our next meeting and speak on this subject.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 17, 1997 at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Peter T. Dalleo